

Hard Work And Dedication

Help Team Turn Over A New Leaf Early In The Season

What does it take to get a team back on track? To play the way Ashley basketball has always been played? The varsity girls' basketball team has hit some rough spots in their season, but the hard work and dedication that this year's team put in made it a productive season.

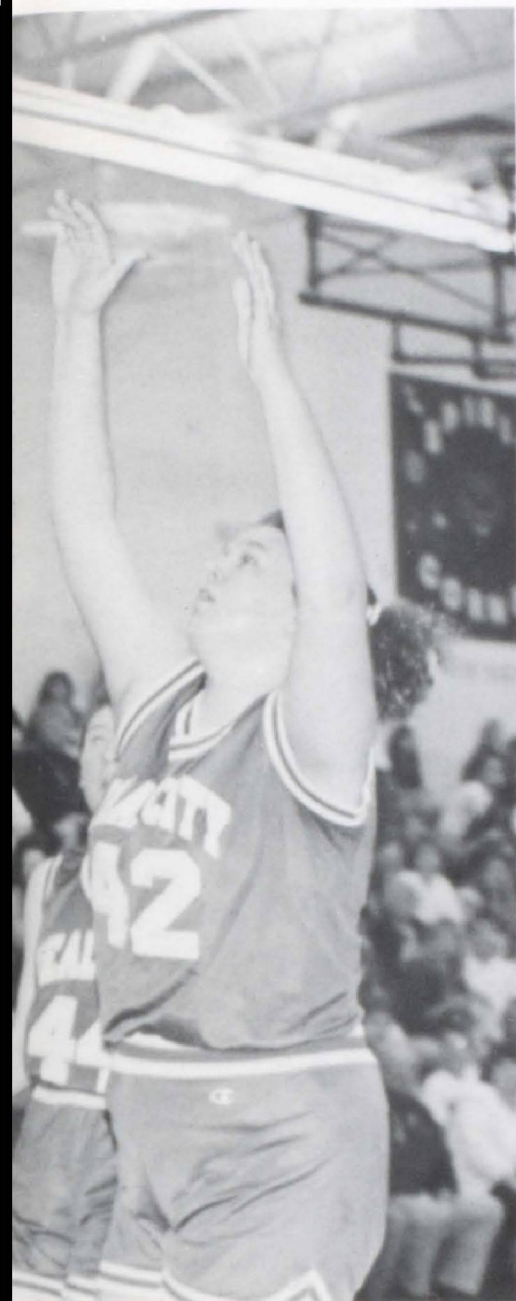
The second game of the season, with Ithaca, proved to be a rough spot; then Coach Carl Wayer spoke to the team after the game. His speech put the desire to win back into them. Coach Wayer told the girls that he knew they weren't playing to the best of their ability so he challenged them to do so. "This speech," Amy Crumbaugh commented, "really inspired me and made me realize just how capable all of us were, as a team, if we played hard and worked together. From then on out, I tried to give 110% at all times."

After the Ithaca game, the team went on to play Portland St. Pat's. They lost this game but they'd actually won something more important.

They'd won back their pride, respect, and ability to work together as a team. Coach Wayer summed it up when he commented, "Following their humiliating loss to Ithaca the players realized that to prevent another disappointing season they would have to play and practice hard and then do it."

The girls continued to try their hardest, winning intermittently, but by the middle of the season, they began a winning streak of nine games.

Jenny Felton, Amy Crumbaugh, and Janette Stehlik were all key players. All three were voted First Team All-Conference, while Angie Camp was elected Second Team and Lisa Polash was named Honorable Mention. These girls didn't make the whole team, though. All the girls who played contributed to the excitement of becoming co-champs with Webberville. Veteran player Kelli Felton reflected, "My two biggest disappointments were being co-champs with Webberville and losing to Fowler in districts."



K. Lytle



K. Lytle

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It was a good experience to play on varsity as a freshman.

Shelby Osborn

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K. Lytle

STRUGGLING WITH A PASS, Angie Brzak tries to get the ball to the post while Jenny Felton waits for the pass back to her if any trouble occurs. Angie and Jenny both contributed to a win in the first district game against Beal City.